

Community Planning for Wildfire Assistance (CPAW)

Community Update
March 3, 2017



Allison Williams, Exec. Services Director
Cliff Burdick, Building and Fire Code Official
Glen DeVries, Planning Manager
Steve King, Community & Econ. Dev. Director



City of Wenatchee



Background:

Our Wildland Fire –History

- ◉ 1992 – Castlerock fires – 17 homes & 15 apartments units (Wen. World)
- ◉ 2012 - No 1. & No. 2 Canyon fires
- ◉ 2014 – Skyline
- ◉ 2015 - Sleepy Hollow – 30 homes

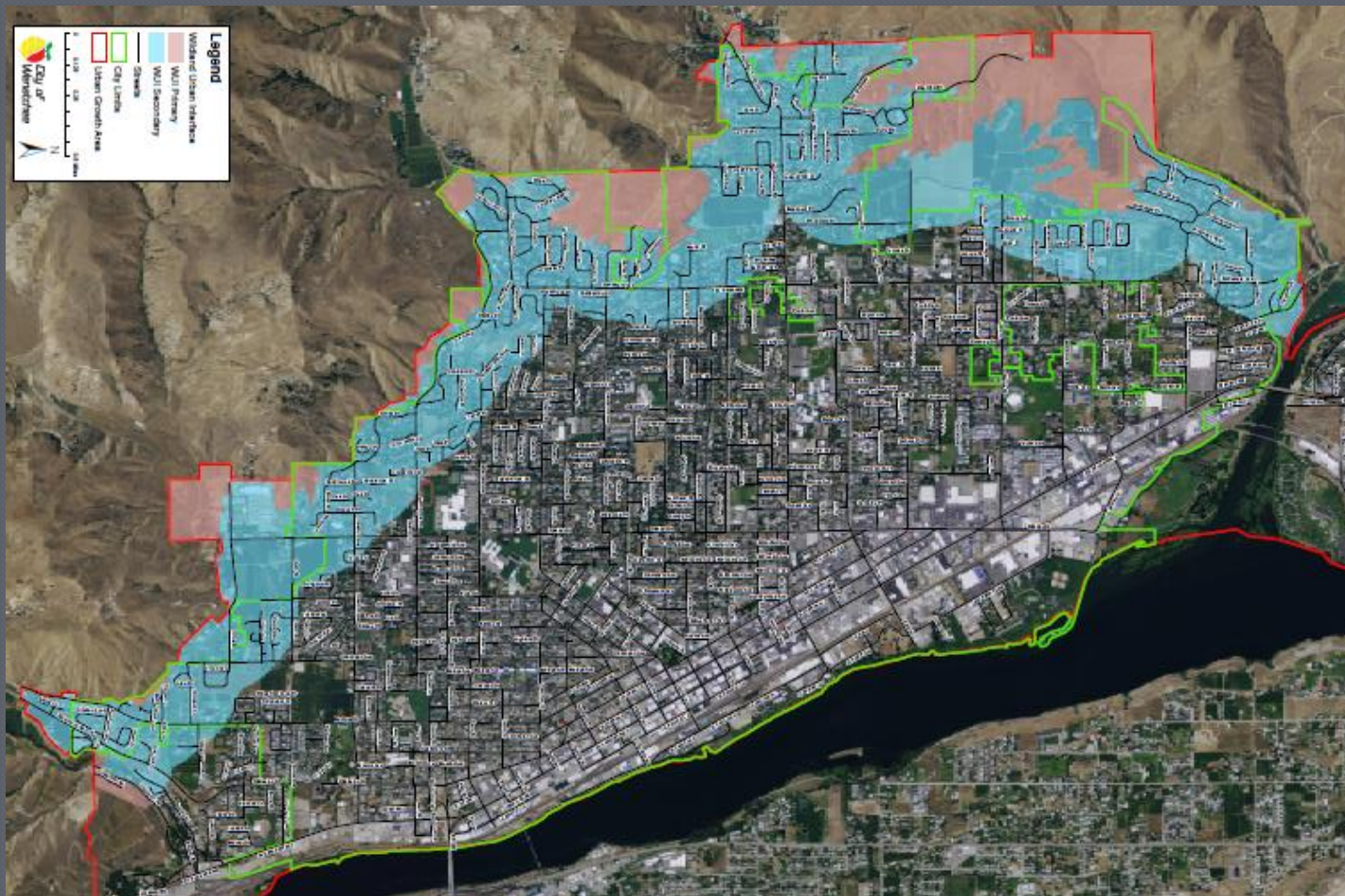
Background: 2015 Sleepy Hollow Fires



Background: 2015 Sleepy Hollow Fires



Background: WUI Code - Adopted 2011



Over 12 Miles of Interface

Recommendations:

Update our Comprehensive Plan

WILDFIRES, GOAL 7: Acknowledge the impacts that wildfires have on the Wenatchee Valley. Seek to develop and implement approaches to adapt to the risks of wildfires making the City of Wenatchee a more fire adaptive community.

Policy 1: Coordinate with regional stakeholders in the development and implementation of a City of Wenatchee wildfire protection plan and program.

Policy 2: Review the development code and land use recommendations of the Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire Program for the City of Wenatchee and Chelan County. Through a public process including key stakeholders balance these recommendations and potential amendments with the other policy components of the City of Wenatchee Urban Area Plan and community values.

Policy 3: Support the implementation of the Transportation Element, the Wenatchee Urban Area Motorized Transportation Circulation Map, and requirements for secondary access as improved circulation and access provides for more effective emergency response capabilities and public safety by providing the opportunity for residents to move away from harm while avoiding conflict with responding resources.

Recommendations:

Update our Comprehensive Plan

Policy 4: Consider allowing for design deviations from zoning standards in the primary wildland urban interface zones for residential and non-residential development where these deviations can be found to provide a greater fire-resistant construction method.

Policy 5: In coordination with public agencies and non-profit organizations, promote the alignment of ecological restoration and ecological based fire management with wildfire mitigation strategies to manage undeveloped open space/recreation areas.

Policy 6: Continue to coordinate with public water utility purveyors and the county to ensure that adequate fire flow and fire storage is available in the wildland urban interface.

Policy 7: Inventory and assess any historic structures within the primary zone of the wildland urban interface that may require special mitigation to promote resilience during a wildfire event.

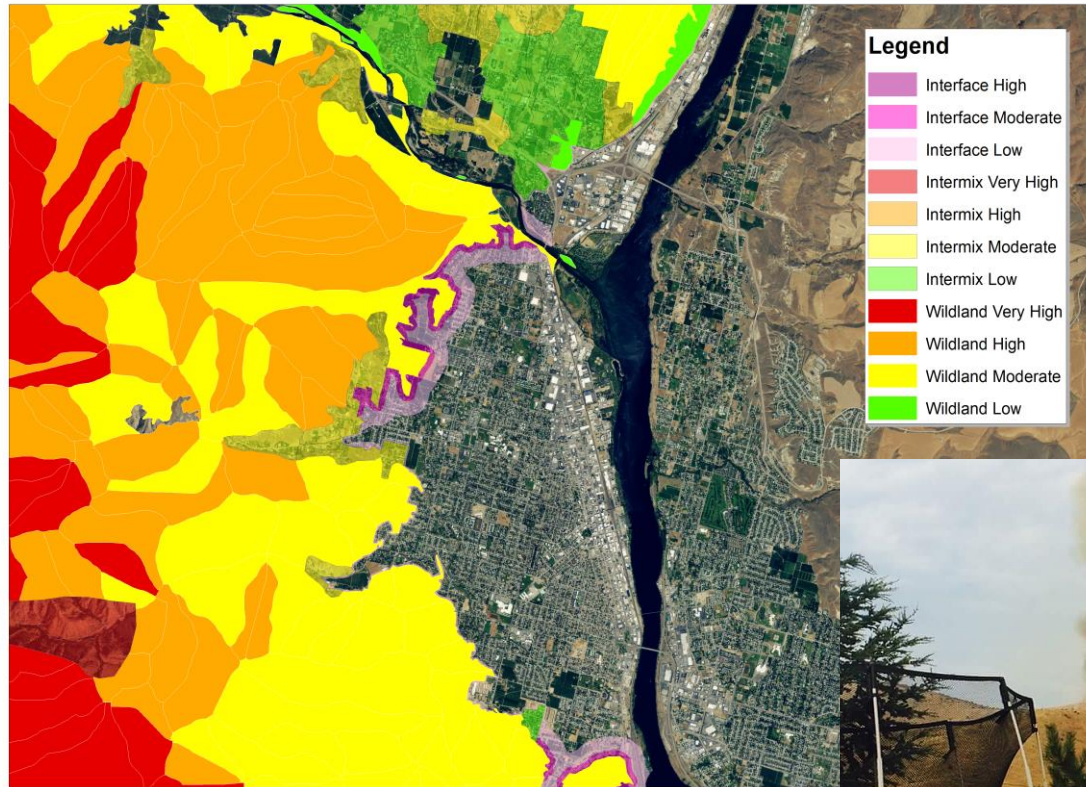
Recommendations: Develop a City CWPP

Partner with Cascadia Conservation
District and Chelan County

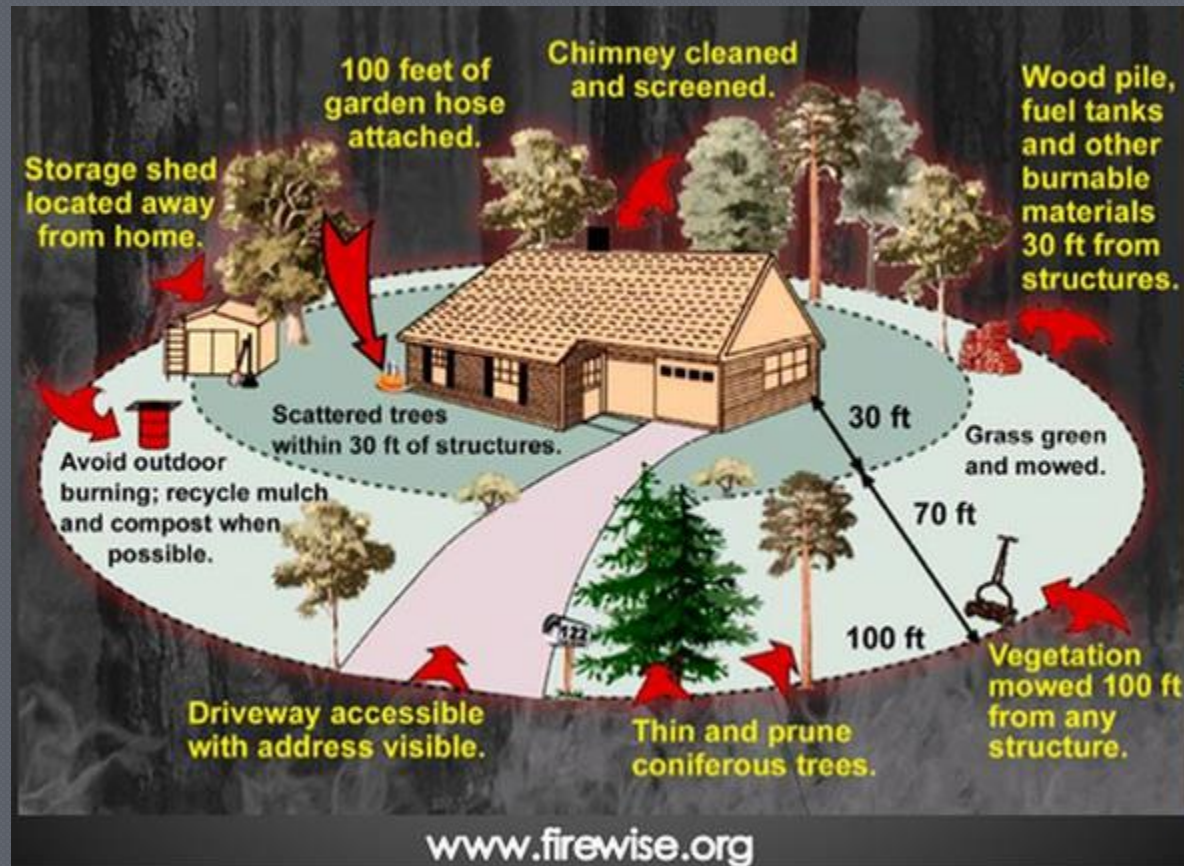
Develop Foothills Fuels Management
Strategies Based on Science

Develop a City specific plan with
Chelan County F.D. No. 1

Recommendation: Utilize Risk Mapping

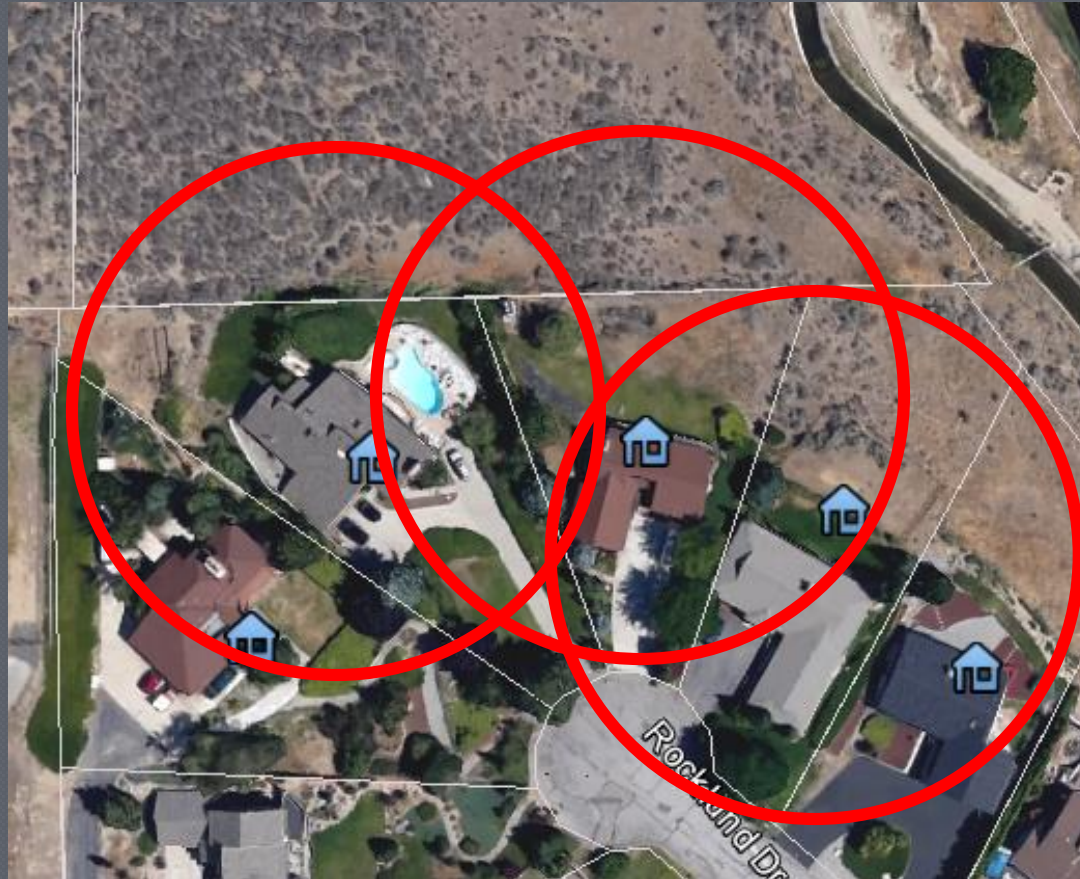


Recommendations: Property Protection



Typical Home Ignition Zone

Recommendations: Neighborhood Challenges



Home Ignition Zone – Urban Setting

Recommendations: Property Owner Partnerships



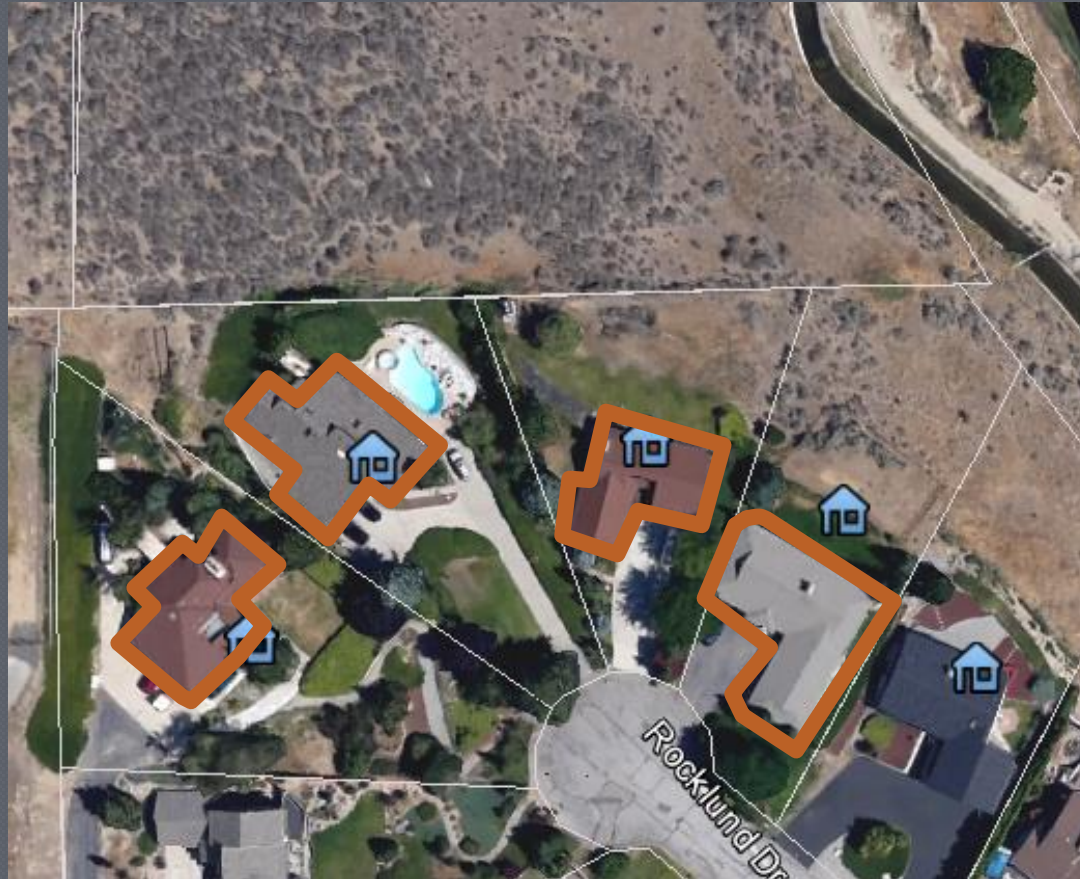
Lower Fire Intensity – 100 FT Zone

Recommendations: Everyone Does Their Part



Stop Fire Spread – 30 FT Zone

Recommendations: Everyone Does Their Part



Prevent Ignition – 5 FT Zone

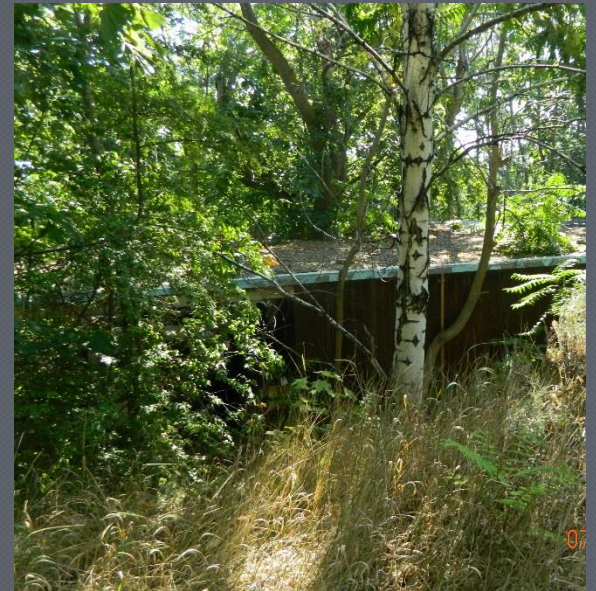
Recommendation: Codes Consistency

Current Codes and Plans

- ◉ Wildland Urban Interface – WCC
- ◉ Housing Code
- ◉ Nuisance – WCC 6A.16
- ◉ Fire Code – WCC 3.20
- ◉ Landscaping Codes
- ◉ Zoning Codes
- ◉ Comprehensive Plan, CWPP, and Hazard Mitigation Plans



Recommendation: Landscaping Codes

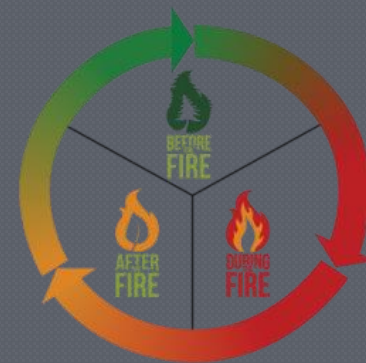


Problematic Vegetation

Summary: Next Steps

- ◉ Include policies in comprehensive plan
- ◉ Work with Chelan County FD No. 1 and partners – education and encouragement
- ◉ Work with Cascadia CCD. - CWPP development
- ◉ Work on support strategies – good science and balancing values
- ◉ Update codes

Background: Fire Adapted Communities



National Cohesive Strategy

Role of planning in building community resilience?

**Community Planning Assistance for
Wildfire Technical Assistance Grant**